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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HARFORD COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 248 MONTHS
FOR DRUG DEALING AND HANDGUN POSSESSION**

Baltimore, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that Anthony Singleton, age 42, of Edgewood, Maryland, was sentenced today by United States District Judge Richard D. Bennett to 248 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release, for possession with intent to distribute cocaine base, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Singleton was convicted by a jury in October, 2003 after a three-day trial.

The evidence at Singleton's trial established that on October 9, 2001, officers from the Harford County Sheriff's Office and the Harford County Narcotics Task Force executed a search warrant at Singleton's apartment. In a safe in the apartment's bedroom, the officers found, among other items, approximately 42 grams of crack cocaine, \$1400 in cash, and a loaded nine millimeter semi-automatic handgun. At the time of the search, Singleton had been convicted of a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment of more than one year, and was prohibited from possessing a firearm. The evidence further established that Singleton knowingly possessed the crack cocaine

and the handgun, that he possessed the crack cocaine with the intent to distribute it, and that he possessed the handgun in furtherance of his drug trafficking activities.

This case was investigated by the Harford County Narcotics Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Craig M. Wolff and Michael Hanlon.